

NOTE: This item was not received in time for inclusion in the appropriate issue.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Prince Bandar in Hafal-Batin, Saudi Arabia

October 28, 1994

King Abdul-Aziz Medal

Q. Your Majesty, would you care to tell us what the decoration was, what its purpose was, Prince Bandar?

Prince Bandar. This is the highest medal in the kingdom, that His Majesty awarded the President for his gratitude for the President of the United States of America and the people of the United States.

The President. You all are holding up well?

Q. No, are you?

Q. What are you going to do with all your medals now? Put them in your library?

The President. No, I'm going to wear them to my press conference and hope that I'll get more respect. [Laughter] I'll just wait until a difficult question arises, and I will put it on and hope it serves as a shield.

NOTE: The exchange began at 9:43 p.m. at the Royal Compound Reception Hall. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Proclamation 6752—The Year of Gospel Music, 1994

October 28, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Born in the soul of America's churches, Gospel music is an integral part of liturgy and spirituality in parishes from Atlanta to Dallas, Detroit to Baton Rouge, the heart of New York City to the smallest hamlets of our country. It is a music of the people, one that has provided hope and inspiration for generations of Americans.

Gospel music has come to influence singers and composers of all popular forms, in-

cluding jazz, the blues, and soul music. The rhythm and expressiveness—the very feeling—has become an important part of our culture and a vital part of our heritage.

Our Nation owes a great debt of gratitude to those who preserve and bring to life Gospel music in our churches, in recordings, in concerts, and through the media. It is in our national interest to promote and support Gospel music so that generations to come may enjoy and appreciate it. In so doing, we will gain a greater understanding of the breadth and vitality of the human spirit and its indomitable faith as it is expressed through the beauty of song.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 157, has designated the year of 1994 as "The Year of Gospel Music" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this year.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the year of 1994 as The Year of Gospel Music. I urge all Americans to celebrate Gospel music with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to reflect on the role that this music has in reinvigorating and renewing our souls and our communities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 1:40 p.m., October 28, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 1. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Remarks on Returning From the Middle East

October 29, 1994

Thank you very much, and good morning. Less than 24 hours ago, I stood with the brave men and women of our Armed Forces stationed at Tactical Assembly Area Liberty